

HOUSE RESOLUTION 195

By Lamberth

A RESOLUTION to honor Leslie Ann Bridges on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Ann Bridges is one such individual who has demonstrated the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity during her career in the Tennessee Attorney General's Office; and

WHEREAS, having distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order throughout her exemplary three-decade tenure, Ms. Bridges will be taking a much-deserved retirement as Counsel to the Attorney General in June 2022; and

WHEREAS, a native of Fort Worth, Texas, Leslie Bridges graduated from David Lipscomb University in Nashville and received her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law, where she served on the *Tennessee Law Review*; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bridges began her estimable legal career at the law firm of Spears, Moore, Rebman & Williams in Chattanooga before joining the firm of King & Ballow in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Bridges joined the staff of the Tennessee Attorney General's Office in September 1991; during her tenure, she served on the Tobacco Diligent Enforcement team to represent Tennessee in the dispute with tobacco companies over payments under the multi-million dollar Master Settlement Agreement and provided valuable leadership to the Opioids Litigation team, in which capacity she persevered in the face of many obstacles before attaining the ultimate result of a \$26 billion settlement, which will likely help save the lives of many Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, prior to her role as Counsel to the Attorney General, Ms. Bridges served as Senior Counsel in the Civil Litigation and State Services Division, Deputy Attorney General of the Medicaid Fraud and Integrity Division, and Senior Deputy of the newly formed Public Protection Section; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Bridges received national recognition for her work on the tobacco settlement and was awarded the prestigious Laurie Loveland Award by the National Association of Attorneys General; she is also a 2016 recipient of the Leech Award, which is presented annually to individuals who have made significant contributions to the work of the Attorney General's office and who exhibit the qualities of professionalism, excellence, judgment, respect, and ethics; and

WHEREAS, an esteemed member of her profession, she also received the National Association of Attorneys General Training Institute's Faculty of the Year Award in 2019 for the numerous trainings she provided to Attorneys General staff throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Ms. Bridges is looking forward to spending time with her family during her retirement, as well as traveling and working on her golf game; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Bridges has proven herself to be wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she is to be specially commended for her many years of honorable and astute service to the citizens of this State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Leslie Ann Bridges our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, applauding her years of dedicated public service in the Tennessee Attorney General's Office and wishing her every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.